

APPENDIX A

1. (Previously Presented) A reporting system for creating a report using a computer comprising:

a prompt object comprising a question to be asked of a user and at least one validation property, the prompt object being used to define some or every aspect of a report definition; and

a resolution object for collecting an answer to a question of the prompt object for report creation;

wherein the resolution object is created and stored prior to the execution of a report.

2. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the resolution object is created by a third party outside of the reporting system.

3. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the stored resolution object is used to answer a prompt in a report instance during the execution of a report.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein an answer from a stored resolution object is used to modify a default answer to a prompt in a report.

5. (Original) The system according to claim 3, wherein the resolution object causes the suppression of a prompt.

6. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the report is scheduled to execute at a future time.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein a resolution object converts itself from XML into another format for the reporting system upon receipt by the reporting system from a third party source.

8 - 20 (Cancelled).

21 - 23 (Cancelled).